capacity of 197.0034 lakh metric tonnes per annum (LMTPA) of urea from 28 urea units in operation, 130.1749 LMTPA (66.08%) is based on natural gas, 45.4535 LMTPA (23.07%) on naphtha and 21.375 LMTPA (10.85%) on FO/LSHS.

MEGA Industrial Parks at Vishakhapatnam

3685. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider setting up of Mega Industrial Parks for petrochemical and Allied Industries with Public and Private Partnership model with State involvement at Vishakhapatnam as the Government of India has identified Andhra Pradesh as one of the potential State for such projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, assisted by Consultants is studying the feasibility of setting up Mega Chemical Industrial Estates at different locations in the country. A Task Force on Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIR) has also been constituted in the Prime Minister's Office on 20.1.2006, in order to enable quick and coordinated decision making and to provide an appropriate policy framework for the development of investment regions of requisite scale and level of facilities, with the involvement of world class developers and investors, in the field of petroleum, chemicals and petrochemicals. This Task Force will also finalize the number and locations of PCPIRs. A definite time limit has not been fixed at this stage.

Drug prices liability review committee

3686. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Drug Prices Liability Review Committee to settle the cases of Drug Price Equalization Account (DPEA) recovery; and

(b) if so, how many cases have been settled, so far, and the number of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Drug Prices Liabilities Review Committee (DPLRC) was constituted vide Resolution No. 23 (2)/93-PI-1, dated 21st March, 1994 to determine the DPEA liabilities of the drug companies.

(b) 72 cases were referred to Drug Prices Liabilities Review Committee (DPLRC) for its review/determination of liability till the interim stay dated 30.6.1997 was granted by the Hon'ble Bombay High Court in Writ Petition No. 2368/1996 filed by Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association (IDMA) and Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) restraining the Department and its committees etc., from issuing fresh notices to the drug companies calling for information required for determining liabilities. In totality, out of the 72 cases referred to DPLRC, the Committee submitted its report in respect of 47 cases. At present, there are 25 cases pending with DPLRC because of the Stay granted to Hon'ble Bombay High Court where no quantification can be done till the vacation of the stay. Presently, DPLRC has been kept under suspended animation w.e.f. 31st December, 2005 as no new case could be taken up by the Committee for quantification due to the stay given by the Hon'ble Bombay High Court.

Procurement of foodgrains and storage

3687. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to involve private sector in procurement of foodgrains and its storage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether FCI is not equipped to take up the responsibility of its own; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Procurement of foodgrains under Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations is taken up